Docket No.: 2343-172-27

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

GROUP ART UNIT: 2877

EXAMINER:

IN RE APPLICATION: Akshaya KUMAR, et al

SERIAL NUMBER:

10/662,347

FILED:

September 16, 2003

FOR:

FIBER OPTIC LASER-INDUCED BREAKD CTROSCOPY DEVICE AND METHODS OF USE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents PO BOX 1450 **ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

Applicant(s) wish(es) to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

Applicant(s) wish(es) to make of record the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are not attached as this application was filed after June 30, 2003.

RELATED CASES

Attached is a list of Applicant's(s') pending applications and issued patents which may be related to the present application. Copies of the documents, where required, are attached along with Form PTO-1449.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that

- each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign or international patent office in a counterpart foreign or international application for the first time (to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry) not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign or international patent office in a counterpart foreign or international application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed:

- without fee and within three months of the filing date of the application.
- without fee and within three months of the date of entry of the U.S. national stage.
- without fee and before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (to the knowledge of the undersigned).
- without fee and with the appropriate certification above.
- without fee and with a new CPA application.
- without fee and with a Request for Continued Examination.
- with fee and before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution (to the knowledge of the undersigned).
- with fee, appropriate certification above, and before payment of the Issue Fee.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1442.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP

Steven B. Kelber Attorney of Record Registration No. 30,073

Patrick R. Delaney Registration No. 45,338

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DOCKET NO.: 2343-172-27

LIST OF RELATED CASES

Docket Number	Serial or Patent Number	Filing or Issue Date	Status or Patentee
2343-034-27	5,751,416	May 12, 1998	Patented
2343-036-27	5,686,661	November 11, 1997	Patented
2343-131-27	10/098,368	March 18, 2002	Pending
*2343-172-27	10/662,347	September 16, 2003	Pending

The cases listed on this Notice of Related Cases include cases which may contain information that is material to patentability. The listing of a case on this Notice should not be taken as an indication or admission that any information contained therein is material. Prior art for each case listed on this Notice may have been cited. The files corresponding to the listed cases, which are available to the Examiner, may not have not been examined to ascertain the materiality of any prior art therein. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to review the file for each case listed on this Notice in order to assess the materiality of such prior art.

^{*}Present application; listed for information.

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Form PTO 1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF			DOCKET NO.		SERIAL NO.				
COMMERCE (Modified) PATENT AND THATEMARK			2343-172-27		10/662,347				
OFFICE (S)			APPLICANT						
FEB 0 9 2004			Akshaya KUMAR, et al.						
LIST OF REFERENCES CITE PARTE LICANT			FILING DATE		GROUP ART UNIT				
(Use Several Sheets if Necessary)		September 16, 2003		2877					
U.				S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIAL	-	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING APPRO	DATE IF PRIATE	
	AA	4,927,307	5/22/90	FITZGERALD, et al.					
	AB	5,847,825	12/8/98	ALEXANDER					
	AC	6,174,754	1/16/01	LEE, et al.					
	AD	5,751,416	5/12/98	SINGH, et al.					
	AE	5,686,611	11/11/97	SINGH, et al.					
	AF	5,128,882	7/7/92	COOPER, et al.					
	AG		,						
	AH								
	AI								
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			FOR	EIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY			TRANSLATION YES NO		
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	AO							·	
		OTHER RE	FERENCES	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pert	inent Pages, I	Etc.)			
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EXAMINER	EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED								
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.									